

03/09/2023

My name is Phyllis McWilliams and I live at 10313 Gretchen Nicole Court, Woodstock, MD 21163 – Howard County. I wanted to provide testimony on SB 516. I am definitely in support of the bill and it's a long time in coming for such a progressive state as Maryland. I wanted to provide comment/questions on section **36–302 (B) (1) and (B) (2)**.

I am requesting that more specificity be added to the bill about the definition of the four plants that are allowed to be grown by medical patients over the age of 21. For the purposes of home cultivation by a medical patient, what is considered a plant? Mature, flowering plants? Seedlings? Plants in a vegetative state? I would like more clarification in the law. Most states distinguish between mature plants and immature plants. Mature plants being only plants in the flowering stage. Therefore seedlings and plants in a vegetative state may not count toward one's plant limit. In other states immature plants, seedlings, mother plants, and/or any non-flowering plants are not included in the home cultivation limit.

Additionally the cap of 4 plants in a household with two or more qualified patients seems unfair. Why should a household with 2 or more qualified patients be discriminated against and treated the same as a household with only 1 qualified patient? I would propose that the limit be raised to 8 plants in a household with two or more qualified patients.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my testimony.

Sincerely,

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